

## Major League Baseball Players Pension Plan Stats 🖇

The Major League Baseball Players Pension Plan covers players, coaches, trainers and managers from all of the Major League Baseball teams. Having started on April 1, 1947, it is the oldest pension plan by 15 years in the United States for professional sports.

## MLB Players Pension Stats<sup>1</sup>

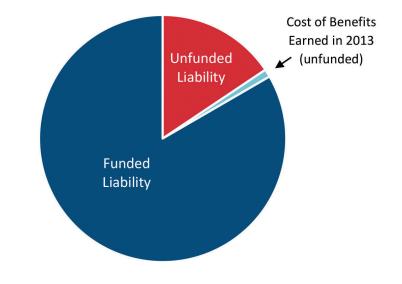
As of April 1, 2013, the most recent publicly available data.

Active members		
Male		1,084
Female		2
Total		1,086
Retirees receiving pension	benefits	3,146
Inactive members <sup>2</sup>		<u>3,778</u>
Total members		8,010
Average approximate annu	al pension benefit	\$48,000
Pension benefits paid		\$151 million
Plan assets <sup>3</sup>		\$2.4 billion
Plan benefit liabilities <sup>3</sup>		\$3.0 billion
MLB club contributions in 2	2013	\$143 million
Cost of benefits earned in 2013		\$ 33 million

## **About Pension Finances**

At the start of the 2013 season, the plan had \$2.5 billion in assets against projected benefit liabilities for retired, active and inactive members of \$3.0 billion.<sup>3</sup> In the context of the redyellow-green (stoplight colors) zone system commonly used with this type of pension plan,<sup>4</sup> the MLB plan is in the green zone—the best financial health zone under this system. During 2013, MLB clubs collectively contributed \$143 million to the plan, \$33 million of which covered the cost of new benefits that active members earned during 2013, leaving \$110 million to be applied toward the funding shortfall of \$500 million.

## Plan Funded Status, 4/1/2013<sup>3</sup>





The MLB Players Pension Plan is a multiemployer pension plan. For more Society of Actuaries' research on multiemployer pension plans: <u>http://www.soa.org/</u> <u>Research/Research-Projects/Pension/research-2015-08-</u> <u>multiemployer-plan-stress-metrics.aspx</u>



For more Society of Actuaries' research on pension plans and retirement issues in general: <u>http://www.soa.</u> <u>org/research/research-projects/pension/default.aspx</u>

<sup>1</sup> The source of all data shown is the Department of Labor Form 5500 for the 2013 plan year, as filed for the Major League Baseball Players Pension Plan.

- <sup>2</sup> Former active members who have not yet started to receive pension benefits; they may begin to receive benefits at age 62.
- <sup>3</sup> As calculated by the plan's actuary for funding purposes and documented on the plan's Form 5500 for 2013, including benefits accrued during the 2013 plan year.
- <sup>4</sup> Internal Revenue Code Section 431 defines the funding status zones.

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